



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION**

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**TONY THURMOND**  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

November 25, 2019

*Via e-mail*

Alexa Gagosz  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 83583  
411A Highland Ave.  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Dear Ms. Gagosz,

Subject: Public Records Act Request Dated November 21, 2019

In compliance with the Public Records Act (PRA), California Government Code section 6250 et seq., this letter responds to your request submitted to the California Department of Education (CDE) on November 21, 2019 to obtain the following information:

- 1. A spreadsheet of all public high schools in the state of California that offer a journalism course during the current academic year (2019-2020).***
- 2. A spreadsheet of all student-ran media groups within all public high schools in the state of California. This spreadsheet should include the newspaper or news magazines with a corresponding link, if any, with its corresponding school in which it is housed.***

The CDE has reviewed your requests and determined that all responsive records in its possession are publicly available as follows:

**Regarding Request #1:**

The CDE annually collects course data from LEAs through the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS). Detailed information about the courses taught at each school can be found in the Courses Taught downloadable data file that is publicly available on the CDE Staff Assignment and Course Data webpage located at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/df/filesassign.asp>. Detailed information about the students enrolled in each course or class, including the student grade level, can be found in the Course Enrollment and Class Enrollment downloadable data files, also publicly available on the CDE Staff Assignment and Course Data webpage. Included in these files is a four-digit “course code” that corresponds to the name of the course that was

taught. A list of these course codes is available in the Assignment Codes downloadable data file, also publicly available on the CDE Staff Assignment and Course Data webpage. Additional supporting information regarding these downloadable files can be found in the “File Structure” link and in the Staff Data – Entity Relationship Diagram (ERD), also publicly available on the CDE Staff Assignment and Course Data webpage.

Course definitions for the related assignment codes can be found in the CALPADS Code Set spreadsheet under the Course Group State code set. The CALPADS Code Set spreadsheet is publicly available on the CDE CALPADS System Documentation webpage located at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sp/cl/systemdocs.asp>.

For the 2018–19 academic year, the corresponding assignment code for the Journalism course is 2111; however, the assignment code for journalism will be different beginning in the 2019–20 academic year. The 2019–20 course data are currently being collected from LEAs and will be made publicly available in 2020.

**Regarding Question #2:** The CDE has reviewed this request and determined that the CDE has no responsive records in its possession.

Please be advised that any request for records that you make, and our response to it, are themselves public records and may be disclosed to any member of the public should the CDE receive a request for disclosure.

Sincerely,

/s/

Randy Bonnell, Education Research and Evaluation Administrator  
Analysis, Measurement, and Accountability Reporting Division